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IPER Annex (PCT/CN2004/000265)

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## Amended claims

1. A dressing material for treating or alleviating diseases or conditions of an individual in need of promoting the proliferation or differentiation of epithelial cells, which consists of microparticles of an inorganic silicon-containing compound and/or an inorganic calcium-containing compound.
2. A dressing material according to claim 1, which consists of microparticles of an inorganic silicon-containing compound.
3. A dressing material according to claim 1, which consists of microparticles of an inorganic calcium-containing compound.
4. A dressing material according to claim 1, which consists of microparticles of an inorganic silicon-containing compound and an inorganic calcium-containing compound.
5. A dressing material according to claim 1, which consists of microparticles of a compound containing silicon and calcium in combination.
6. A dressing material according to claim 1, wherein said microparticles are soluble.
7. A dressing material according to claim 1, wherein said microparticles have a diameter of from 100 nm to 100  $\mu$ m.
8. A dressing material according to claim 1, wherein said microparticles of inorganic silicon-containing compound are microparticles of any silicon-containing compound selected from the group consisted of  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{NaAlSiO}_2$ ,  $\text{KAlSiO}_2$ , and the like, or any combination thereof.

9. A dressing material according to claim 1, wherein on the basis of relative stoichiometric percentage, the content of silicon is 0-100%, and the content of calcium is 0-100%.
10. A dressing material according to claim 1, wherein said microparticles of inorganic calcium-containing compound are microparticles of any calcium-containing compound selected from the group consisted of CaO, CaSO<sub>4</sub>, CaPO<sub>4</sub>, CaCl<sub>2</sub>, and the like, or any combination thereof.
11. A dressing product, comprising a dressing material according to any one of claims 1 to 10, and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or excipient, an antibiotics, a conventional topical anesthetic drug, or another factor being capable of promoting the proliferation of epithelial cells, such as collagens and/or epithelial growth factor, or any combination thereof.
12. A dressing material according to any one of claims 1 to 10, which is present in the form of powder, ointment or patch.
13. A dressing material according to any one of claims 1 to 10, which is a dressing material for the wound surface of skin and can be used to promote the repair or healing of the wounded skin.
14. A dressing material according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein said diseases or conditions are selected from the group consisted of incised wounds, contusions, burns, scalds, chemical burns, bedsores, various ulcers on the surface of skin, and the like.
15. A dressing material according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein said individual is an animal, in particular a mammalian (such as an ape, cattle, horse, pig, sheep, rodent, goat, dog, cat, or rabbit), preferably a human.
16. A dressing product according to claim 11, which is present in the form of powder, ointment or patch.

17. A dressing product according to claim 11, wherein said dressing material is useful for the wound surface of skin and can be used to promote the repair or healing of the wounded skin.
18. A dressing product according to claim 11, wherein said diseases or conditions are selected from the group consisted of incised wounds, contusions, burns, scalds, chemical burns, bedsores, various ulcers on the surface of skin, and the like.
19. A dressing product according to claim 11, wherein said individual is an animal, in particular a mammalian (such as an ape, cattle, horse, pig, sheep, rodent, goat, dog, cat, or rabbit), preferably a human.
20. Use of inorganic element silicon-containing compound and/or inorganic element calcium-containing compound in the manufacture of a dressing material for treating or alleviating diseases or conditions of an individual in need of promoting the proliferation or differentiation of epithelial cells.
21. Use according to claim 20, wherein said dressing material is used as a surface coating layer of various devices to be implanted in vivo.
22. Use according to claim 21, wherein said devices to be implanted in vivo are metal stents for coronary artery.
23. Use according to claim 20, wherein said diseases or conditions are selected from the group consisted of incised wounds, contusions, burns, scalds, chemical burns, bedsores, various ulcers on the surface of skin, and the like.
24. Use according to claim 20, wherein said inorganic elements silicon and/or calcium are in the form of single element or composite elements, and said microparticles have a diameter of from 100 nm to 100  $\mu$ m.
25. A method of promoting the proliferation of epithelial cells in vitro, wherein

said method comprises administering a proliferatively effective amount of microparticles of silicon-containing compound and/or calcium-containing compound to said epithelial cells.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the final concentration of silicon is from 1 to 100 ppm.

27. A method according to claim 25, wherein the final concentration of calcium is from 1 to 33 ppm.

28. A method according to claim 25, wherein said microparticles have a diameter of from 100 nm to 100  $\mu$ m.

29. A method according to claim 25, wherein said inorganic element silicon-containing compound and/or calcium-containing compound is any silicon-containing and/or calcium-containing compound, such as  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{NaAlSiO}_2$ ,  $\text{KAlSiO}_2$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ ,  $\text{CaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaPO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , or the like, or any combination thereof.